



Proposed Budget 2016-2017

0.43% Proposed Tax Levy Increase



- ☑ **Proposed Budget Increase: 1.97%**
- ☑ **Budget maintains excellent programs and class size guidelines while keeping expenses low (Pages 3 and 4)**
- ☑ **Oceanside spends less per student than the Nassau County average**
- ☑ **Budget continues to support all extracurricular and community activity programs (Page 3)**
- ☑ **Outstanding student achievement in academics, athletics, the arts and activities (Page 6)**

What Am I Voting On?

Tuesday, May 17, 2016

Proposition 1:

School District Budget

Proposition 2:

Public Library Budget

Election:

Two seats on Board of Education
(3 year terms)

Terms Expiring on June 30, 2016:

Michael D'Ambrosio • Robert Transom

Voter Registration: You are registered to vote if you:
1. have voted at/registered for a School District election since January 1, 2012 OR **2.** You are validly registered to vote with the County Board of Elections for the General Election. If you need to register, visit the District Clerk at 145 Merle Avenue by May 10. Call 678-8580 for more information.

A Message from Your Board of Education

Dear Neighbors and Residents,

As a Board of Education we are charged with understanding myriad federal and state regulations, tending our revenue stream, and keeping expenses in check ~ all while maintaining focus on our primary goal.

Job one, of course, is to educate our students. We are responsible for ensuring that staff has the ongoing support needed to do their jobs and we must properly maintain the buildings and grounds where our students learn and play each day. The Board strives to share this common goal with you openly, informatively and transparently.

We have conducted public budget discussions over the last two months among the administration, teachers, support staff and residents. The purpose of these budget workshops was to clarify where revenue comes from and to review all expenses - line by line - to create a relationship



of trust and open transparency. The workshops allowed us to trim where we could while maintaining the quality of our educational programs and our key community asset – our schools.

The Board of Education and the Administration were challenged this year to prepare the budget with a historic low 0.12% consumer price index impacting our tax levy limit.

We congratulate the administration and staff for their continual vigilance in examining operating procedures and expenses and seeking new ways to achieve objectives.



Wherever possible, they cut costs without impacting quality.

We are happy to report that our efforts paid off! We were able to accomplish our goal without cutting any programs, with a budget-to-budget increase of 1.97% and a tax levy of 0.43%.

We will remain a district that supports our children and our residents and provides the best educational bang for the buck on Long Island. We ask that you stay informed. Come to Board Meetings each month and vote on May 17, 2016.

Sincerely,

Oceanside Board of Education

Robert M. Transom, [President](#)

Donald Maresca, [Vice President](#)

Seth Blau

Michael D'Ambrosio

Kimberly Grimm Garrity

Mary Jane McGrath-Mulhern

Sandie Schoell

How does this budget preserve the quality of our educational program?

Oceanside School District remains a leader in educational excellence and student achievement. Our programs reflect the increasing importance of technology and social emotional skills to prepare students for college and careers. The budget preserves our comprehensive instructional and extracurricular programs. For example:

- **Use of iPads** in the grades 7-11
- An Elementary Technology Initiative that will **integrate the use of Chrome books in all 6th grade classrooms**



- Project Lead the Way **program that will provide hands-on engineering experiences** for students in grades 9-12
- **A Virtual Academy program that provides seniors with real-world business experiences** including marketing, communicating, and concept development that will prepare students for future careers in the business field
- **A hands-on STEM program** for all students in grades 4 and 5, expanding to grade 6 in 2016-17
- **An upgraded state-of-the art film production studio** at the high school that has led students to win many awards
- **Dance and Choreography course** at the high school level



- **A stellar middle and high school research program** that has produced numerous awards for students in Intel, Siemens and other prestigious competitions
- **A new boys swim team** at the high school
- **A new writing program that engages students** and promotes high quality writing in grades K-8
- Reading and Math **programs that emphasize critical thinking** and reading, rigorous writing, and higher-level math skills
- **Anti-bullying programs and supports that exceed requirements** of state law and promote social emotional literacy (SEL)
- **World Language course offerings** including Spanish for grades K-6 and Spanish, Italian, French, Hebrew, Mandarin Chinese and American Sign Language for middle and high school students
- **Parent informational programs** on curriculum, internet safety, substance abuse prevention, technology, and more
- **Extensive support programs for students** who need additional help to be successful



What is the Budget and how does it differ from the Tax Levy and the Tax Cap?

The proposed expenditure budget for 2016-17 is \$147,241,588. This represents a **1.97%** budget-to-budget increase over the current school year.

The tax levy is the total amount of property taxes a school district must collect to balance its expenditure budget after accounting for all other revenue sources including state aid. The District's tax levy for the 2016-17 school year is estimated to be \$117,147,135. This represents an increase of 0.43% over the current year and is in compliance with our allowable **levy limit ("Tax Cap")**.

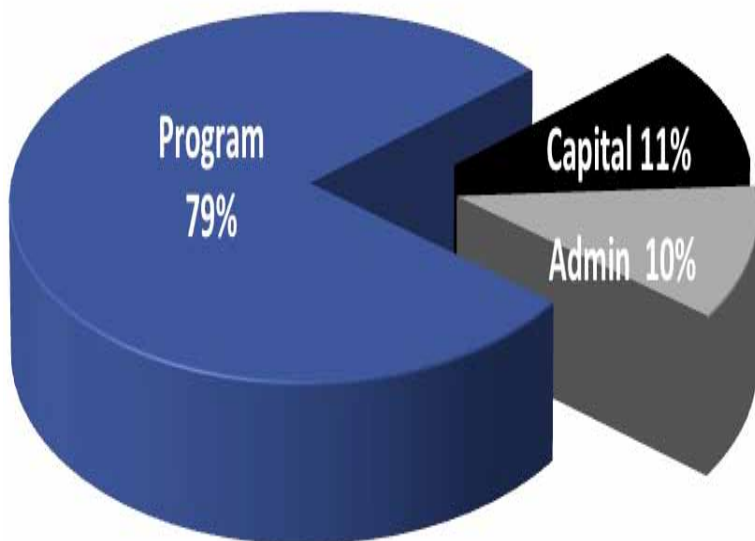
In June 2011, the New York State Legislature passed a law restricting how municipalities raise revenue. Although it has been referred to as a **"2% Tax Cap,"** it is more accurately defined as a **Tax Levy Limit**.

Each municipality is required to calculate its specific levy limit based on a multi-step formula prescribed by the state. This formula contains certain exclusions that could result in tax levy increases above or below 2%.

It is important to understand that the law applies to the school district tax *levy*, not to tax *rates* or individual tax *bills*.

continued

Instructional Program Represents 79% of Budget



Therefore, **the percent tax levy increase does not mean your school taxes will go up by that amount.** In fact, individuals may see their taxes go up OR down based on many factors that determine homeowners' school taxes. The school tax levy is only one of those factors.

Where are they now? Some of our recent alumni are

- 1. Graduating from Harvard University (recently nominated his math teacher for Harvard Club Distinguished Teacher of the Year....she won)**
- 2. Managing a major college sports team and now in his sophomore year**
- 3. Working in the United States Senate**
- 4. Working to bring water filtration to countries lacking clean, safe water**

Shifts in assessed values, property classes, (which represent how the tax levy is distributed between commercial properties, utilities and different types of residential properties), and STAR exemptions from year to year will contribute to the calculation of a homeowner's individual school taxes.

If the voters do not approve the proposed budget on May 17, the Board of Education may authorize a second vote or adopt a contingency budget which under the tax levy limit law must be equal to, or less than, the 2015-16 tax levy.

The 2016-17 budget includes principal and interest costs associated with borrowing the first \$12 million of the \$30 million bond approved by voters in 2014-15. Impact on future budgets will be determined by how and when funds are borrowed for the balance of project approvals.

The completed bond projects thus far are roof reconstruction projects at Schools #2, #3 and #4, floor tile replacement, classroom casework, site work, door and hardware and bathroom partitions upgrades at School #2; auditorium sound system at School #3; new sound system installation on main field at OHS; Wi-Fi at Oceanside High School; security improvements districtwide.



Our Students & Staff

POINTS OF PRIDE

Our success starts with a community that supports education. Here, a few highlights from the past year.

21 AWARDS AND HONORS FOR STAFF WITHIN PAST YEAR

600+ STUDENTS RECOGNIZED

AT BOARD HONORS (Approximate Total for Year)

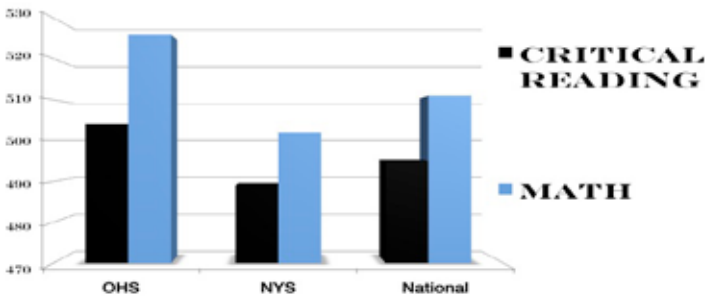
19 NATIONALLY BOARD CERTIFIED TEACHERS

STUDENTS STAFF & FAMILIES

MORE THAN ANY LI DISTRICT

RAISE \$80-100K For Charity Annually

SAT SCORES EXCEED State & National Averages



OCEANSIDE MIDDLE SCHOOL DESIGNATED AN ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS SCHOOL TO WATCH

CITED FOR:

- ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE
- DEVELOPMENTAL RESPONSIVENESS
- SOCIAL EQUITY
- STRUCTURED FOR EXCELLENCE

75+ CLUBS & SPORTS

CONCERTS & PLAYS

Art & Music

STEM SCIENCE TECHNOLOGY ENGINEERING MATH

At all levels



SEMIFINALISTS Intel & Siemens

FINALIST International Science & Engineering Fair

Plus Semifinalists, 1st, 2nd & 3rd Place Winners at NYSSEF, JSHS & Other Competitions



1ST PLACE Math League

Elementary Team Plus 7th Place in State MEDALISTS & AWARDS: Nassau Math Tournament, LI Math Fair etc.

OHS Mathletes reached highest ranking in 10 years

DECA 1st & 3rd Place

Top 10 Category Winners 5 STUDENTS ADVANCED TO INTERNAT'L CONFERENCE

163

ALL COUNTY MUSIC STUDENTS Many More Students Chosen FOR LISFA, PEAK, NYS HONORS BAND AND MORE

UNDEFEATED Football Team

16 SCHOLAR ATHLETE TEAMS State Championship Qualifiers Invited to Nat'l Cheer Competition 4 COACHES OF THE YEAR

Winners PTA REFLECTIONS Nassau County Young Authors MATH OLYMPIAD

CAREER EDUCATION

Exciting new courses at OHS in business, technology and theater; Career Day; Teen Shadow Day and more

Proposed Budget 2016-17

	ACTUAL BUDGET <u>2015-16</u>	PROPOSED BUDGET <u>2016-17</u>
<u>ADMINISTRATION</u>		
Board of Education; Central Administration; Building Administration Personnel Administration; Auditing; Legal Counsel; Insurance		
Total Administration	\$14,649,818	\$15,123,557
<u>INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM</u>		
Professional Development for Teachers and Support Staff	586,809	620,962
Salaries for Teachers and Support Staff	60,440,930	61,906,234
Support for Instruction (Equipment, Supplies, Texts, BOCES, Library Media)	3,349,801	3,296,619
Special Programs (Special Education, Adult Education, Recreation, Summer School, Enrichment)	14,656,651	14,828,647
Transportation	5,928,388	5,843,000
Employee Benefits, Separation Payments & Interfund Transfers	28,835,433	28,769,714
Total Instruction	\$113,798,012	\$115,265,176
<u>CAPITAL</u>		
Buildings and Grounds, including Custodial Staff; Debt Service		
Total Capital	\$15,951,679	\$16,852,855
Total Expenditure Budget	\$144,399,509	\$147,241,588
		1.97%
<u>Less Estimated Revenue and Fund Balance</u>		
Appropriated Fund Balance	3,250,000	3,250,000
State Aid	17,996,789	21,146,795
PILOT Payments	2,358,998 *	2,278,897
Rental Income	45,478	45,478
Tuition, Fees, Admissions	320,000	320,000
Miscellaneous Revenue	149,415	141,624
Interest Income	75,000	75,000
Dept. Of Community Activities Revenue	2,290,609	2,290,609
Transfer from Retirement Contribution Reserve (ERS)	600,000	-
Unneeded Authorization from Capital	395,000	275,000
Medicaid Reimbursement	100,000	100,000
Reimbursement for Environmental Trips	169,927	171,050
Total Estimated Fund Balance and Revenues	\$27,751,216	\$30,094,453
Amount to be Raised by Taxes (Tax Levy)	\$116,648,293 *	\$117,147,135
		0.43%
Total Revenue Budget	\$144,399,509	\$147,241,588

**Revised due to LIPA Reform Act as required by Nassau County and NYS Comptroller*

Important Note: Oceanside's Tax Levy meets the legal NYS Tax Levy Limit, resulting in a simple majority vote needed on May 17, 2016 to pass the school district budget

Oceanside Union Free School District Board of Education

Robert M. Transom, *President*
Donald Maresca, *Vice President*
Seth J. Blau
Michael D'Ambrosio
Kimberly Grim Garrity
Mary Jane McGrath-Mulhern
Sandie Schoell

Dr. Phyllis S. Harrington
Superintendent of Schools

Donna Kraus
Public Information Coordinator; Editor

Administrative Offices:
145 Merle Avenue, Oceanside, NY 11572.

Please call 678-7525 with any questions about our schools.

Visit our website @ oceansideschools.org

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Budget and Voting Information

Dates to Remember

Tuesday, May 10, 2016
7:30 pm

BUDGET HEARING

School #9E/9M
Auditorium

For more information, please call the District Clerk at 678-8580 or visit our website at oceansideschools.org and click on [Voter Information](#).

May 2-May 17, 2016

Copy of proposed Budget statement and texts of any resolutions available at each school Monday through Friday.

NOTE: The Oceanside School District is divided into four school election districts. Voters must vote at the building within their election district. Voting locations are at Schools #5, #6, #7 (High School) and #8. Visit our website at oceansideschools.org and click on [Voter Information](#) to find your voting location.

Tuesday, May 17, 2016

BUDGET VOTE & ANNUAL SCHOOL BOARD ELECTIONS

Proposition 1 - School District Budget: Resolved, that the statement of estimated expenses (budget) presented by the Board of Education of Oceanside Union Free School District, Town of Hempstead, County of Nassau, State of New York, for the School year 2016-2017 in the amount of \$147,241,588 for the purposes stated, be and same is approved, and said total amount, exclusive of public monies and other lawful income shall be raised by the levy on the taxable property within the school district and collected during the ensuing year as provided by law.

Voter Eligibility & Registration

Residents are registered and eligible to vote if they: (1) Voted at or registered for a School District election subsequent to January 1, 2012 OR (2) Are validly registered to vote with the County Board of Elections for the General Election.

Registration of voters shall take place year round between 9 am and 4 pm weekdays at the District Clerk's office, 145 Merle Ave., except during the five working days prior to any school district election.

Applications for absentee ballots may be obtained from the District Clerk. Please mail your completed application to the District Clerk at least seven days before the election OR deliver by hand the day before the election. The ballot must be received by the District Clerk no later than 5 pm on the day of the election.

Proposition 2 - Library Budget: Resolved, that the Board of Education of Oceanside Union Free School District shall increase its contract with the Oceanside Library Association for the period July 1, 2016 to and including June 30, 2017 providing for free library services as is particularly described in said written contract for the sum of \$30,714 and that sum, together with the sum of \$4,378,097 heretofore authorized, for a total of \$4,408,811 to be appropriated to meet the payments due under said contract and that taxes shall be levied, assessed and collected against the taxable property of the School District for the ensuing year for above purposes.

Budget Vote & School Board Election - Tuesday, May 17, 2016, 7 am to 10 pm